

REMARKS

Claims 7-10, 13 and 15 have been amended. Claims 1-3 and 7-24 remain pending in the application.

The Examiner rejects claims 7, 8, 10, 13 and 14 under §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite for using the phrase “capable of.” The Applicants respectfully disagree that the use of the term “capable of” renders the claims indefinite. However, in the interest of expediting prosecution, the Applicants have amended the rejected claims to replace the objected language with the term “for.” The Applicants respectfully request that the indefiniteness rejection be withdrawn. It should be noted that the Applicants’ use of the term “for” is not intended to invoke section 112, paragraph 6. Unless a claim element expressly recites “means for,” it is not intended to be in means-plus-function format.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-3 under §102(e) as being anticipated by *Schopfer*. The Applicant respectfully disagrees. Claim 1 calls for using an A/D converter to process voice signals and also for converting a portion of the received ringing signal. *Schopfer* describes using an A/D converter 110 for processing ringing signals, but is conspicuously silent about processing voice signals, as called for by claim 1. Indeed, *Schopfer* clarifies that the signal on the line on which the A/D 110 (see Figure 4) resides contains the AC and DC components of the ringing signal, not voice signals. *See Schopfer*, at col. 4, lines 30-34 (stating that the low pass filter after the A/D 110 removes 20 Hz AC component from the DC component of the ringing signal.) For at least this reason, claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable.

In light of the reasons presented above, Applicant respectfully asserts that the pending claims are allowable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at the Houston, Texas telephone number (713) 934-4064 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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